

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 18-24 are active in this application, Claims 1-17 having been canceled and new claims 18-24 added by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action Claims 1-3, 6-9, 12-13, 15 and 16 were rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Himmelstein (USPN 6,496,107), Claims 14 and 17 were rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Herrod et al (USPN 6,405,049), and Claims 4-5 and 10-11 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Himmelstein in view of Herrod et al.

In light of the outstanding grounds for rejection, Claims 1-17 have been canceled and replaced by new Claims 18-24 drafted to clarify the subject matter for which patent protection is sought in the present application. New claims 18-24 correspond to the embodiment of the present invention shown in FIGS. 12 to 17, and no new matter has been added.

Himmelstein discloses a vehicle control system for permitting voice control of at least one device in a vehicle. The system controls a function of the device by registering a voiceprint of a user and comparing it with an identification code.

The apparatus recited in new Claim 18 recites an information exchange apparatus to communication-connect between a VTR and a TV receiver, using a remote controller, unlike Himmelstein.

Herrod et al disclose a portable data device system including a portable data device and a cradle for receiving the portable data device which is arranged to recharge the portable data device power supply and/or upload of download information to and from the portable

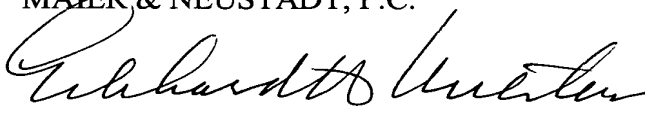
data device. The Herrod et al. system differs from the claimed invention which provides an information exchange apparatus to communication-connect between a VTR and a TV receiver, using a remote controller.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Himmelstein and Herrod et al. are not pertinent to the subject matter of Claim 18 and Claim 18 patentably defines thereover. For similar reasons, Applicants consider the remaining Claims 19-24 also patentably distinguishing over the cited prior art.

Consequently, examination on the merits of the newly submitted Claims 18-24 is believed to be in order, and an early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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